CRITERION B: PERSON

Properties may be eligible for the National Register if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

UNDERSTANDING CRITERION B: PERSON[6]

Criterion B applies to properties associated with individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented. Persons "significant in our past" refers to individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, State, or national historic context. The criterion is generally restricted to those properties that illustrate (rather than commemorate) a person's important achievements. (The policy regarding commemorative properties, birthplaces, and graves is explained further in *Part VII: How to Apply the Criteria Considerations.*)

Several steps are involved in determining whether a property is significant for its associative values under Criterion B. First, determine the importance of the individual. Second, ascertain the length and nature of his/her association with the property under study and identify the other properties associated with the individual. Third, consider the property under Criterion B, as outlined below.

Examples of Properties Associated with Persons

Properties associated with a significant person:

- *The home of an important merchant or labor leader.*
- *The studio of a significant artist.*
- *The business headquarters of an important industrialist.*

***Criterion B - The William Whitney House**, Hinsdale, DuPage County, Illinois. This building is locally significant for its historical association with William Whitney, the founder of the town of Hinsdale, Illinois. Whitney, a citizen of New York State, moved to Illinois, established the town, and while living here between 1870 and 1879 was a prominent local businessman and politician. (Photo by Frederick C. Cue).*

[6]For further information on properties eligible under Criterion B, refer to *National Register Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons.*